

**CULTIVATING READING HABIT AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS:**

**THE DEAR PROGRAMME**

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**UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA**

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CULTIVATING READING HABIT AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS:  
THE DEAR PROGRAMME

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# CULTIVATING READING HABIT AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS: THE DEAR PROGRAMME

## ABSTRACT

This study investigated on the effectiveness of the DEAR Programme in a secondary school. It aimed to discover whether the programme has successfully cultivated positive reading habit among students. It also identified the elements which contribute to the programme's success, and ways to improve. Semi-structured interviews were carried out with ten teachers and twenty-two students from forms one, two, and four of this school. Analysis revealed several themes: 1) freedom to choose reading materials, 2) environment, 3) time, 4) reading materials, 5) teachers' role, 6) involvement, 7) changes in the students' reading habits, 8) misconceptions of the DEAR Programme, and 9) suggestions for improvement. The DEAR Programme in this school has been successful in cultivating reading habit. However, the programme can be improved if elements of monitoring, clarity of information, and involvement of all members in the school are emphasized.

# MEMUPUK TABIAT MEMBACA DI KALANGAN PELAJAR SEKOLAH MENENGAH: PROGRAM DEAR

## ABSTRAK

Kajian ini mengkaji keberkesanan Program DEAR di sebuah sekolah menengah. Ia bertujuan menentukan sama ada program ini telah berjaya dalam memupuk tabiat membaca yang positif di kalangan pelajar. Ia juga telah mengenalpasti elemen-elemen yang menyumbang kepada kejayaan program ini, dan cara-cara untuk memperbaikinya. Seramai 10 orang guru dan 22 orang pelajar tingkatan satu, dua, dan empat sekolah tersebut telah terlibat dalam sesi temuramah separa struktur. Analisa mengemukakan beberapa tema: 1)kebebasan memilih bahan bacaan, 2) persekitaran, 3) masa, 4) bahan bacaan, 5) peranan guru, 6) penglibatan, 7) perubahan pada tabiat membaca pelajar, 8) salah konsep mengenai Program DEAR, dan 9) cadangan untuk penambahbaikan. Program DEAR di sekolah tersebut telah berjaya memupuk tabiat membaca. Walaubagaimanapun, program ini boleh diperbaiki jika elemen pengawasan, kejelasan maklumat, dan penglibatan oleh semua warga sekolah ditekankan.

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## GUIDE FOR PARTICIPANTS' CODING

All participants were coded as according:

S - Student

G - Girl

B - Boy

number appeared after the gender - the student's form

number appeared after the hyphen (-) - number of participant

T - Teacher

F - Female

M - Male

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

In the effort to cultivate reading habit, various reading programmes are implemented in schools of many countries. World Book and Copyright Day are among the many programmes designed in order to encourage more people to read (Chua, 2008). Due to the fact that most children these days spend more time watching television than reading (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD], 2007 as cited in Chua, 2008), many other reading programmes have been designed and launched in many countries around the world. A few reading programmes which aim to cultivate reading habit among youths include Sustained Silent Reading (SSR), Free Voluntary Reading (FVR), Drop Everything And Read (DEAR), Daily Independent Reading Time (DIRT), and Uninterrupted Sustained Silent Reading (USSR) (Chua, 2008). Chua (2008) reported that “although there are differences among them (reading programmes), these programmes share some common features, such as letting students read silently, freely, and without interruption” (Gardiner, 2001 as cited in Chua, 2008).

DEAR Programme is a classroom activity in which time is set aside for teachers and students to drop everything and read. The main aim of this programme is to encourage independent silent reading for extended periods of time. It is normally implemented on a daily or weekly basis. Students are supposed to choose the reading materials that they wish to read based on their interests and abilities. DEAR activity should not be sacrificed for other tasks nor should it be used as a filler activity if a lesson finishes early. This activity is not graded, although the

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the thesis is for  
internal user  
only

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## APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG1-1 (Nazhatul)	Okay. DEAR Programme can fill my free time.	Not sure.	None. The best thing is to borrow books from the library.	Okay like it is.			I often read book. Before this I read less. Now I read more. Before this there are weeks when I don't read. After the DEAR Programme, I will read every week.	Not bored to read the books because I'm interested with the book chosen.	Good because sometimes I have no time to read at home.
SG1-2 (Aina)	I think the DEAR Programme can make pupils improve their reading in English and their vocabulary through reading.	The element that I find the most helpful for me is we can read in a quiet place where no one can disturb us. If at home, it's difficult to read because my younger siblings will disturb.	Actually there is no element which is not helpful.	Maybe we could lengthen the duration from 40 minutes to 1 and a half hour.			I read many times when this programme is launched. My reading habit is better than before. I like to read but not much like after this programme. Before this I read 3 or 2. After this programme increase to like 5 or 6.	Yes, it is good because we will not be restricted to read whatever book.	It's really good. I think we should continue this programme.
SB1-3 (Amin)	It's very good for reading. Because it improves my reading. My reading is better.	It makes me like reading. Before this I like reading, but after the DEAR Programme, I like reading more.	None.	Do it three times a week. It will make students improve in reading.			Yes. I read more. My reading is improved. Vocabulary.	It is good because there are some books that we don't like to read so we cannot force ourselves to read.	It brings me a lot of good. We should continue this programme.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SB1-4 (Zarul)	The programme is okay. It encourages us to read.	Once I did not like reading but after this programme, I like to read and go to the library.	None.	We normally do 40 minutes, I think it's okay if we do 1 hour. That should be sufficient. Make it frequent. More than once a week.			After the programme, I always go to the library.	If it's our own materials, we can read. If it's others', we may not be able to read.	Okay. Should continue this programme.
SG1-5 (Tasha)	I think DEAR Programme is a good programme. I can prepare for the next lesson. It's not wasting my time. I can gain more knowledge.	The time 40 minutes. Very suitable. Not too long and not too short.	No.	It is okay like it is. Just continue.			Yes. It makes me eager for the next lesson. I can be prepared for the next lesson. I can understand the next lesson.	I can choose the materials that I like. They are suitable for me.	I think we should continue because it makes students gain more knowledge.
SB4-6 (AKmal)	The DEAR Programme is a really great way to encourage students to read books. For me it's really great.	Well, the way, how should I say this, well, because I'm still new in this school, so I couldn't say much about how this programme can help me.		By in-charging the teachers to monitor the classes during the DEAR Programme because normally what I see, every time the DEAR programme goes on, the teacher does not come in and the students didn't read book, they just play and stuff.			Perhaps so because after seeing this programme, a little bit better, just taking a book and read.	Yes. Because if we choose the books for ourselves, we'll feel the interest to read the book.	Yes.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG4-7 (Foo)	Firstly, I think I gain many benefits from the DEAR Programme. Good because sometimes at home I lack of time to read. So at school, because of the DEAR Programme, I have time to read the material that I like.	The time and the reading material because we are not encouraged to read textbook, so we must bring storybook to read. So, it let me like reading more.	.	The duration. Because the time period is too short. And sometimes, the teacher does not come to our class. I hope teacher can go into our class and monitor.			Yes. I prefer reading	Students are not given so many freedom to choose our material because we are not encouraged to read textbook. I hope the principal can let us read textbook because sometime we have no time to do revision for exam. I hope that school can give us like newspaper and magazine because I lack of newspaper.	Good because everyone has to read during the DEAR Programme so we will read and cultivate our reading habit.
SB4-8 (Mahavecr)	I think it is not so convenient to have it because the students won't read.	The time, I think, because the time is quite long so you can read, use some time to read so you can get more knowledge.		Increasing the time. Having a teacher in the class. Then make sure the teacher know that you are reading.			There is a little bit. I've known some spelling and all. Then can get new idiom, all that stuff.	Because we are interested. Because we are willing to read.	It might help but not 100%.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG4-9 (Hanie)	I think DEAR Programme is very good for me because it can give me time to read the materials that I want to read, such as magazine, that is not in the school syllabus, comics, something that can't be read at school.	This programme gives me many options to choose any kind of books. The freedom given to me.	The school does not give us any permission to read something in the school syllabus. If we are seen reading any school book, we are not allowed.	We can improve the programme by allowing the students to read textbook in order to prepare. I think the time should be longer. One hour. I think the teacher also should show the good habit so that the students can follow them.	She did her own job but she does not disturb us at all so I don't mind if she wants to do her own job. She asks us to read and just do not talk aloud. I guess she does read. Ya, she reads along at the same time.	Focus spm. Magazine and adventurous comic. But if examination is around the corner, I will just read the textbook or my reference book.	Yes. When the DEAR Programme is in our timetable, I will prepare my own book to bring to school, so I will have the encouragement to read the book in the morning. Before this I have to find time to read my own book because there are many homework to do. I read more now because of the given time.	I think it is good because we don't have to follow any rule that maybe the authority ask us to read, or what type of book.	I think it's good because I have time, actually, I don't read too much during that time but I can have time to talk about something. good knowledge. I can share my opinion with my friends at that time.
SB4-10 (Fakhzan)	I think it is a good programme for students to spend their free time reading.	I think the main purpose of the programme is very helpful for students like me. To give students some time to read. Because I don't have much time to read at home.	I don't think so.	I think teachers can bring reading materials for the students during this programme. because in my class there's not much reading materials.	I think it is okay because the teacher in charge is doing her job. She reads with us at that time. Generally she looks at everyone, make sure they are reading.	Magazines. Reading materials at the back of my class.	Maybe some changes. Can improve my vocabulary. I think I read more now compared to before.	I think it is good so I can bring any reading materials that are suitable.	I think it brings good because during the DEAR programme I can relax and just read.



STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG4-11 (Arina)	Drop everything and read. Time to read book. I think it's good because it gives time for the students to read so that they are interested in reading	Most helpful because it allows us to choose the book that we want to read. Because students can choose to read on the subjects that they are weak in.	None.	The duration is 40 minutes right? Make it 1 hour.	The teacher reads too. The teacher does not look at what we read, only makes sure that we don't talk and read.	I always read Korean, Chinese, Japanese books. Language books. I like books that teach languages.	I like to read. Before this I dislike reading. If there's nothing to do at home, I will continue reading. If I don't finish reading during the DEAR Programme, I will continue next week.	Because I can choose interesting books. If not interesting, I don't want to read.	Good. No bad things. It gives time for all students to read.
SG4-12 (Alissa)	DEAR Programme, sit for 40 minutes, read book, pretending to read book. Good for those who read. But I don't read, so there's no effect to me.	The weekly session is allocated for us to chat. So, we don't have to learn because we have the DEAR Programme.	None. DEAR is the time to relax.	Make it two times a week. 40 minutes but more frequent. It's not necessarily to have it early in the morning. Put it after the recess. Because I don't like read in early in the morning.	Teacher does not say anything. Teacher sits in front, we sit here and chat. We pretend to hold books. Teacher is in the class but doesn't make sure that we actually read. But teacher reads. Teacher does not care if we don't read. But not all students don't read, only a few.	None. I don't read during DEAR, from the start.	None. I don't like reading. Even at home I don't read. I never read. There's no change. Just the same. There's no effect at all.	Not free because it doesn't allow us to read textbook or school books. Teacher doesn't allow us to open the textbook. But the teacher does not mind if we read comic. If there are students who want to read textbooks to prepare for exam, just let them. So that they can read what they want.	Good but I don't benefit from it. For me, it is better to replace it with something else because I only chat during that time. If we have DEAR, not all read. If we learn, everybody will learn.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SB4-13 (Ali)	Not effective because we don't read.	None because there's no change at all.	Waste of time because we just chat. The rules are not strict.	Replace DEAR Programme with co-curricular activities.	Teacher seldom comes in. If the teacher comes in, teacher asks us to do our own work, then teacher does his/her own work, we do our own work. Some teachers do not read. This year, the teacher rarely enters the class during the DEAR programme. We just play when the teacher is not in.	Books. Many types. Storybook, magazine, comic. We cannot read textbook.	No change at all. Nothing happen.	Good because we can read materials other than academic materials like comic.	Not good because not effective. Take it out from the timetable and replace with something else.
SG4-14 (Hidayah)	DEAR Programme can help students to like reading and do their homework. If we don't want to read, we do our homework.	When we read, we realise that reading is actually enjoyable. So, we will read whenever we have free time.	If the teacher does not come in, we don't do anything, we just chat.	Maybe teachers can prepare materials for the students.	The teacher does not come in... Sometimes teacher reads, sometimes teacher observes us.	Novel or magazine. We cannot read textbook except for History if we forget to bring book. Teacher said it's not the time to read textbook. The teacher tells us when he/she comes in.	Not much. If there's nothing to do or bored during free time, take a book and read.	Good because during the DEAR Programme we will bring the book that we want to read. We are more interested to read.	There are advantages and disadvantages. Good for those who are interested in reading. Not good when the teacher does not come in. Students do not know what is DEAR and just play.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG4-15 (Annie)	A good programme but there are students who don't benefit to the fullest.	Because we can choose our reading materials and are free to do anything. Sometimes, we can do our homework so that we won't be scolded by teachers.	The duration is quite long. I feel bored reading the book.	Make it only 20-30 minutes. Prepare reading materials for the students.	Sometimes teacher doesn't care of whatever we do. Sometimes the teacher comes in. If the teacher comes in, teacher asks us to read then teacher does not care. Some teachers like to walk around. Teacher does his/her own work. Sometime teacher reads newspapers, sometimes the teacher does some other work.	Sometimes I bring comics. Sometimes when there's no book, I fear the teacher sees, I read the newspaper taken from the back of my class. Sometimes novel too.	None. No change at all.	Good but sometimes we forget to bring. Too free. But we know what we want.	Good because if it is not in the timetable, students won't read at all. When it is in the timetable, there are students who will read but there are students who don't read. At least, there are those who read.
SB2-16 (Shahrul)	Good because we can spend time reading book.	The most helpful element is I can choose whatever book.	None.	Make it 2 or 3 times a week instead of once.	The teacher does care. Teacher comes in and asks us to do our own work. Sometimes teacher reads. If we chat, the teacher does not say anything.	English magazine. Novel. Not comic.	I like to read. Before this 1 book per week. Now more.	Good because I can choose whatever material that I want to read.	Good because we can use the time for DEAR Programme.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SB2-17 (Khairul)	I think it's quite good because we can read during the DEAR Programme.	The time. The time is not long but we can read during that time.	None.	Lengthen it to an hour.	Sometimes the teacher comes in, sometimes teacher reads. Sometimes teacher does his/her own work. Not reading. Teacher looks at what we are reading. If we chat, the teacher asks us to do our own work or read books.	Magazine. Sometimes storybook. I don't read textbook. Cannot read textbook.	At night, after studying, I will read storybook. Before this I read less because too tired, not interested.	I think it's good because we can choose what we can read. Can choose the book that gives us knowledge and exercise. Excited and feel more interested to learn when the book is of our own choice.	Good because it is done during the first period. After that we can learn.
SG2-18 (Syifa)	We get to read beneficial book.	If we read Bahasa Melayu or English Language books, we can write essays.	None.	The programme is okay.	If teacher comes in, he/she also reads. Sometimes teacher observes us. He/she looks at what we read. If we chat, teacher tells us to keep quiet and read.	Normally storybook like novel. Seldom textbook, reference book, yes.	I like to read book. Before this I was lazy, I read only 1 book per week, now increase 1.	I don't feel restricted to choose the book. Interested to read.	Okay because we don't waste time chatting.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG2-19 (Humairah)	DEAR Programme is the most helpful programme that I have been through because I gives the opportunity to choose my own book and read by myself.	The most helpful element I think is that I can choose the book by myself. So, I can read any type of material that I want.	The freedom to choose the book because some of the students choose comic to read, not material that can help them to improve their english or their IQ.	The teacher should ask the students to bring material that is not comic or something that are not useful, can give you more knowledge, can help you to improve your English or your Science. Teacher tells us to just bring any type of material and read. Because DEAR Programme is during school hour, so the materials must be beneficial. Not something that wastes our time.	Okay. So far no problem. Only some students who don't like to read, they skip DEAR. We normally read English books during the programme, but the teacher reads Bahasa Melayu novel. There was never any briefing about DEAR Programme. The teacher does not give any briefing. The teacher does not observe what we read. She sits at her table, opens her book, asks everybody to read and she also reads.	Normally I like to read reader's digest and some of my encyclopaedia.	No because I love reading since I was small so that is my hobby that is my habit so no change only now I have time to read more.	The freedom is good but it must be guided because we don't want the students to read not useful materials like comics. Waste of time.	It is good because for me it is very helpful. I can get more knowledge and I can improve my language.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SB2-20 (Ku)	For me the advantages are more than the disadvantages.	For me, the element that helps me a lot is when I choose the suitable book, for example, English book. When we don't understand any word, we can refer to the dictionary so, we can improve our vocab.	Some students don't read, they use the time to do their homework. Some don't listen to the teacher.	For me the time is suitable. We are still fresh in the morning.	Most teachers who come in for DEAR bring their own materials. The teacher asks us to be quiet first and then read. Teacher also reads his/her own reading material. Sometimes teacher observes us from his/her desk. Then continues with his/her reading. If any of us chats, the teacher warns us.	English short story. Sometimes newspaper. If there's nothing to read, I read the textbook. The teacher doesn't say anything when I read textbook. As long as reading materials.	I think I am now used to reading. I'm comfortable reading. Before this I was lazy to read. But now I enjoy reading.	The freedom is okay but is sometimes taken for granted. Example, students read comic. It should be guided.	For me if it is to gain knowledge, it is good. Especially in English language because DEAR is in English language.
SG2-21 (Faza)	Okay. It can help us. If we don't have free time to read, DEAR Programme gives us opportunity to read the book that we are interested in. Novel, magazine.	It helps me because when I don't finish my homework, I can do it during that time.	None.	None.	The teacher comes in, reads, asks us to read, checks what we read. Sometimes the teacher walks around and then sits at his/her place then reads.	Magazine. Sometimes novel. Academic magazine.	No. No change. Still the same.	Because we can read what we are interested in. If someone forces us to read, we may not be able to accept, we cannot follow what we read. We don't feel what we read.	Good but not too frequent because it will affect our study. Once a week is okay.

STUDENTS' DATA									
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for you?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do you normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in your reading habit after going through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to choose your own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does you any good / bad?
SG2-22 (Anis)	Good. Beneficial. Can give us time to read what we like, than just studying. Can release the tension.	None.	None.	Make it longer. Maybe one hour or more.	If possible don't walk around. Just sit in front and read. The teacher looks at what we read. Sometimes, when the teacher is too lazy to read, he/she will ask us on what we are reading.	Novel. Magazines. Newspaper. When it's near to exam, I read textbook. Sometimes the teacher scolded if I was caught reading textbook.	Still the same.	Good because there's no guideline, so we are free to read whatever that we want according to our interests.	Good because it gives time for the students to read. Some students in some schools are lazy and don't want to read. They don't want to read English book. Their English is very bad. So can read books at school.

## APPENDIX B



TEACHERS' DATA										
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for the students?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful for the students?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do the students normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in the students' reading habit after they go through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to the students to choose their own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does the students any good / bad?	10. Is the involvement from all parties in this school encouraging?
TM-1 (Amir)	Generally, it's quite a good programme.	The most helpful element is the freedom given to the students to choose reading materials which they are interested in.		The duration should be longer. The session should be done at the end of school hour.				Yes, students are more interested to read because they choose the reading material on their own.	Yes, but if can, in the timetable, put it at the end of the schoolday.	The administration emphasizes on this programme. Their involvement is very encouraging.
TF-2 (Chao)	I think it's a good programme. The first time I was exposed to this programme, I think it's beneficial.	Good because it allocates specific time for all students and teachers to take part in, so students have to prepare the reading materials that they like for that particular session.		The programme should be frequent, maybe twice a week.					Yes.	Not all. Mostly okay.
TF-3 (Leen)	It's a good programme.	Here it is done in the morning, so the mind is still fresh.		Make it two or three times a week. Make it frequent.				Sometimes students bring comics, not suitable. No comic, or novels which are not suitable.	Yes because students don't have time to read, they just don't want to read. At school, they have to.	50-50. Students rather read their textbook, do their homework.

TEACHERS' DATA										
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for the students?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful for the students?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do the students normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in the students' reading habit after they go through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to the students to choose their own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does the students any good / bad?	10. Is the involvement from all parties in this school encouraging?
TF-4 (Samah)	DEAR Programme is actually not practical because it's not very effective.	For the students, it is helpful in the sense that they will read within that 40 minutes. It's just that we cannot control or force them to read reading materials other than textbook.	DEAR Programme is implemented for the first period. Meaning within that 40 minutes there's nothing much that the students can do. They are just interested to focus on their textbook or reading material which is based on their academic.	This programme can be improved if the teachers prepare the material. If so students will read the reading material other than whatever they have in their textbook if not they will either read their textbook or do their homework.			Personally I think there is no change. They are still the same.	Students choose to read their textbook or do their homework.	Personally I think it's not effective, it's not good, there's no improvement. It does not change anything in terms of students' reading habit within that 40 minutes.	In terms of teachers, no. It's not easy to monitor everybody because at the same time teachers also have to read. At the same time we have something else to do other than just sit and read. Either our incomplete work or to prepare for the next lesson. We don't feel like reading at that time. As if we are forcing people. Students and teachers feel forced. There's no willingness. Not encouraging.
TM-5 (Amri)	It's a very good programme because it teaches students to use time to read independently.	The element of choosing own material.	The duration is too long.	Shorten the duration. My suggestion is around 15 to 20 minutes only. Should be everyday. Make it frequent.			Sure. Students who are interested in reading have time to read. Before this students have no interest in reading although opportunity is given. Although at the beginning they are forced, then they are interested in the books read and finally they themselves are interested in reading.	Ya. We should give freedom to students to choose the books that they are interested in so that they are not bored and more interested to know the content of the book.	Very good because if it's not included in the timetable, the programme cannot be implemented at the same time and students will take advantage by doing something else.	Encouraging. All teachers support. However, the school staff may not be involved because they think this programme is not for everybody. So, it is better if we implement to all school members.

TEACHERS' DATA										
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for the students?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful for the students?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do the students normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in the students' reading habit after they go through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to the students to choose their own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does the students any good / bad?	10. Is the involvement from all parties in this school encouraging?
TF-6 (Miza)	Students who never read will at least read when their friends read. Sometimes they don't read. They do their homework.	If students bring book or their own reading materials it will help those who really read.	Only 15-20% students read, others do their homework because the DEAR Programme is in the first period. If it's in the last period like last year, students were busy packing to go home or they just continued doing the exercise given by teachers. Not everybody read.	Teachers give full cooperation. Responsibility and awareness of both teachers and students are important.	Teacher monitors, but not totally. Sometimes we don't mind if the students do their homework. Sometimes we enter the class without bringing any reading materials. Sometimes we bring in work which is not yet completed, we bring in lesson plan, meaning, we do work other than reading. Sometimes teachers are desperate. But there are teachers who bring in reading materials. Sometimes English books. Sometimes Bahasa Melayu	Normally newspapers because it's distributed to classes. NST. But there are 15-20% of students who bring their own storybooks. There are students who bring Bahasa Melayu storybooks. Not all bring English books. But they read.	Not obvious. Still the same.	In terms of freedom, it is okay. They will choose books that they like.	Good because it cultivates reading habit and for those students who never read, when they see their friends reading, they will read. It's the attitude that is not good.	Not obvious. Teachers do go into the classrooms and read. There may be a few who don't go in. For those who don't have to go into the classrooms, they don't read. The administrators also don't read. I do not know about the principal because I never saw her during DEAR. Sometimes teachers go to the canteen during DEAR.
TM-7 (Mansor)	Very good. It gives students opportunity to read various types of reading materials.	The element of giving freedom is good. We don't want to restrict them to classroom materials. Let them read what they want.	No teachers. Students reading comic which is not beneficial. It is not good if students read non-academic materials.	The need of monitoring by teachers. Teachers need to be in the classes during the programme.	Teachers do not enter the class during DEAR Programme. Most teachers don't enter. Teachers go in, teachers ask students to read, they will read. Teachers don't follow DEAR.	Comic. Novel. Newspaper. No textbook.	Not obvious. When DEAR ends, they put reading aside.	Good but we need to guide. Guided freedom.	Good. It gives students opportunity to read.	Not encouraging. The administration also does not read although DEAR Programme is for all. Students look at teachers. When teachers don't do, students won't do.

# TEACHERS' DATA

Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for the students?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful for the students?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do the students normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in the students' reading habit after they go through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to the students to choose their own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does the students any good / bad?	10. Is the involvement from all parties in this school encouraging?
TF-8 (Norhazita)	I think it's good because the purpose of the programme is to encourage the pupils to read more. to have the reading habit but some were not reading. They tend to do something else	They are free to read any kind of materials, but not textbook. Such as newspapers, magazines, or storybooks. And the 40 minutes given is actually sufficient.	The teacher does not seriously monitor. They don't really mind what the students do. But they are in the class. Most of the teachers read.	Students are given the same materials. Everybody gets the same materials and they read for the whole 40 minutes. The teacher is supposed to prepare the materials.	Not very good. Teachers need to be told what they are supposed to do during the programme.	Books. Storybooks. Sometimes magazines. Textbook also although they are not allowed.	If they seriously do what they are supposed to do of course they will improve their reading habit. I don't find it difficult to have the reading habit here but they need to be trained.	It does help for the students who seriously follow.	Of course it's good because they have the time to read instead of doing whatever that they like.	For the pupils, yes. For the teachers also, they are seriously involved. Administration of course. Like the principal, she is very into this programme.
TM-9 (Dahasy)	DEAR Programme is a wonderful programme. Students have 40 minutes to read anything that they want apart from textbook. This programme is helpful for the students in the sense that they gain extra knowledge.	The specific time, once a week, to read materials apart from their textbook	No.	Supervising the programme and make sure that it goes on well.	Not that good. Last time when the former principal was around it goes on on its own. But when that particular person is not around, people tend to relax. Apart from the management, support from the principal does really help.	They prefer to read storybooks, short stories, magazines. It's their interest. Doesn't matter any kind, as long as they have this habit of reading.	Ya. When you walk around the school during free period or relief period, recess, you'll find them in groups, reading.	You cannot make them read certain materials which they don't like.	Good. If possible make it state level, every school should have this programme.	I think not all teachers and staff support the programme. Only 30-40% of the teachers here really like the programme.

TEACHERS' DATA										
Question / Respondent	1. What do you think about DEAR Programme?	2. Which elements of the programme do you find the most helpful for the students?	3. Which elements of the programme that are not helpful for the students?	4. What elements of the programme that you think can be improved?	5. How do you find the monitoring of the programme in class?	6. What materials do the students normally read during the programme?	7. Are there any changes in the students' reading habit after they go through this programme?	8. What do you think about the freedom given to the students to choose their own reading materials?	9. Do you think by including the programme into the school timetable does the students any good / bad?	10. Is the involvement from all parties in this school encouraging?
TF-10 (Zanryah)	It is good. DEAR Programme is supposed to help the students to be more adapt to reading. Our problem is students don't read	Reading itself. For students who already have the reading habit, they really use that time. They bring their storybooks and other materials.	Most of our students, if teachers don't bring any materials, they don't have anything to read. Except their textbook. But we don't allow them to read textbooks, so teachers have to bring books or materials for students to read then their choice is what the teachers have.	Maybe less minutes. let's say 10-15 minutes but do it every morning or 3 times a week. If we want to make something a habit, it must be more than once per week. Our facilities of computers. Not everybody can use computers and then there's no computers in the classrooms. But if we have that, students can surf anything to read.		Storybooks. The materials that they always bring are textbooks. So they just read their textbooks. Unless like before this, the principal went around and said that you cannot read your textbooks, you have to read something else. So they will find whatever materials there are in the class, the newspapers. I know a few teachers who bring storybooks borrowed from the library, then they read that books.	I don't think so because when teachers are not in, they make noise, they don't read.	They can read anything, except textbook, which means quite wide, they can bring anything as long as the thing is allowed at school. It's good to give them freedom to choose. That means they can just print out anything.	It is good to be included in the timetable. It's just that we have to fit in so many subjects in our timetable, so it's a bit difficult because we want to go back early.	I think the level is we are below average 1a because not all teachers read during that time. If we enter the class, we have students reading then we read but if we are somewhere else, we don't read.